so occupied by six or eight others. Shakedown beds, enough to accommodate the guests, were disposed about the room, against the four walls, leaving an open space in the centre of the apartment.

room, against the four walls, leaving an open space in the centre of the apartment.

Judge Clark lay with his head to the north, on one side, and Judge Thomas lay with his head to the south on the other side of the room. So far as that room was concerned, it might be said that their heads represented the north and south poles, respectively.

All the other beds in the room were occupied. The central part of the room was deemed nutral ground, in which the occupants of the different beds had equal rights. Here, in picturesque confusion, lay the boots, hats, coats, and breeches of the sleepers. There were no windows, and though the door was open, there being no moon, the night was very dark in that room.

The willy lawyers, who had been opposing counsel in a case tried in the town court that day, and had opposed each other with the contumacy of wild pigs, were now the very incarnation of meckness, for when the hungry swarm of mosquitoes settled down and bit them on the check, they slowly turned the other to be bitten also.

But hush! hark!

A deep sound strikes the car like a ri-

But hush! hark!
A deep sound strikes the car like a rising knell!
"Me-ow-ow!"
Judges Clark and Thomas were wide-

awake, and sitting both upright in an in-Again the startling cry !

"Ye-ow, ye-ow!"

"There's a d—d cat!" whispered

"Scat, you !"hissed Thomas.
Cat paid no attention to these demon-strations, but gave vent to another

strations, but gave vent to another yowl.

"Oh, Lord!" cried Clark, "I can't stand this! Where is she, Thomas?"

"On your side of the room somewhere," replied Thomas.

"No, she's on your side," said Clark.

"Ye-ow-ow-ow!"

"There, I told you she was on your side," they both exclaimed in a breath.
And still the "yow!" went on.

The idea now entered the heads of both the lawyers, that by a certain strategy they might be enabled to execute a certain flank movement on the cat and totally demoralize him. Practically each determined to file "a motion to quash" the cat's attachment for that room.

cach determined to file "a motion to quash" the cat's attachment for that room.

Each kept his plan to himself, and in the dark, unable to see each other prepared for action.

Strange, as it may appear, it is nevertheless true, that the same plan suggested itself to both. In words, the plan would be about as follows:

The yowler is evidently looking and calling for another cat, with whom he has made an appointment. I will initiate a cat, and this cat will think t'other cat's around. This cat will come toward me, and when he shall have arrived within reach, I'll blaze away with anything I can get hold of, and knock the mew-sic out of him.

So each of the portly Judges, noiselessly as cream comes to the surface of the milk, hoisted himself upon his hands and knees, and, hippopotamus fashion, advanced to the neutral ground occupying the central portion of the room.

Arrived there, Judge Clark selected a bootjack, and Judge Thomas a hervy cowhide boot from the heap, and settled themselves down to the work.

Clark tightened his grip on the bootjack, and throwing his head, gave vent to a prolonged and unearthly "Ye-ow-ow!" that would have reflected credit upon ten of the largest kind of cats.

"Aha" thought Thomas, who was not six feet away, "he's immediately close around. Now I'll inverigle him!" and he gave the regular dark night call of a feminine cat.

Each of the Judges now advanced a little closer, and Clark regular dark might call of a little closer, and Clark regular dark might call of a little closer.

he gave the regular dark night call of a feminine cat.

Each of the Judges now advanced a little closer, and Clark produced a questioning "Ow! ow!"

Thomas answered by a reassuring "Pur-ow!" pur-ow!" and they advanced a little more.

They were now within easy reach, and each imagining that the cat had but a moment more to live, whaled away, the one with his boot, the other with his bootjack.

one with his boot, the other with his bootjack.

The boot took Clark square in the mouth, demolishing his teeth, and the bootjack came down on Thomas's bald head just as he was in the midst of a triumphant "Ye-ow!"

When lights were brought the cat had disappeared, but the catastrophe was in opposite corners of the room, with heels a the air, swearing blue streaks.

THE WANDERER'S PRAYER.

On a cold, dreary evening in autumn, a small boy, poorly clad, yet cleanly and tidy, with a pack upon his back, knocked at the door of an old Quaker in the town of S—. "Was Mr. Lanman at home?" "Yes." The boy wished to see him, and he was speedily ushered into the host's presence.

Friend Lanman was one of the wealthmark in the county, and President of Mannan and Mannan

him, and he was speedly ushered into the host's presence.

Friend Lanman was one of the wealth-lest men in the county, and President of the L.—Valley Railroad. The boy had come to see if he could obtain a situation on the road. He said he was an orphan—his mother had been dead only two months, and he was now a homeless wanderer. But the lad was too small for the filling of any place within the Quaker's gift, and he was forced to deny him. Still he liked the looks of the boy, and said to him;

Still he liked the looks of the boy, and said to him;

"Thee may stop in my house to-night, and on the morrow I will give thee names of two or three good men in Philadelphia, to whom thee may apply with assurance of kind reception at least. I am sorry I have no employment for thee."

Later in the evening the old Quaker went the rounds of his spacious mansion, lantern in hand, as was his wont, to see that all was safe, before retiring for the night. As he passed the door of the little chamber where the poor wandering orphan had been placed to sleep, he heard a voice. He stopped and listened, and distinguished the tones of a simple carnest prayer. He bent his ear nearer, and heard these words from the boy's lips:

"O Good Father in Heaven! help me

orphan had been placed to sleep, heard a voice. He stopped and listened, and distinguished the tones of a simple carnest prayer. He bent his car nearer, and heard these words from the boy's lips:

"O, Good Father in Heaven! help me to help myself. Watch over me as I watch over my own conduct; and care for me as my deeds merit! Bless the good man, in whose house I am sheltered, and spare him long, that he may continue his bounty to other suffering and peedy ones. Amen!"

And the Quaker responded another Amen as he moved on; and as he went he meditated. The boy had a true idea of the duties of life, and possessed a warm, grateful heart. "I verily think the lad will be a treasure to his employer!" was his concluding reflection.

When the morning came the old Quaker had changed his mind concerning his answer to the boy's application.

"Who learned thee to pray?" asked friend L.

"My mother, sir," was the seft reply. And the rich brown eyes grew moist.

"And thee will not forget thy mother's counsels!"

"I cannot; for I know that my success

I cannot ; for I know that my success

in life is dependent upon them."
"My boy, thee mayest stay here in my house; and very soon I will take thee to my office. Go now, and get thy breakfast."

Friend L. was gathered to the spirit harvest shortly after the breaking out of the war at the South; but he lived to see the poor boy he had adopted rise, step by step, until he finally assumed the responsible office which the failing guardian could no longer hold. And to-day there is none more bonorable and respected by his friends, and none more feared by gamblers and evil-minded speculators in irresponsible stock, than is the once poorwanderer—now President of one of the best managed and most productive railways in the United States.

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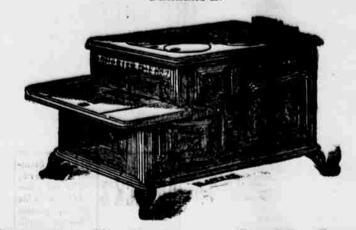
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Vice-President Alabama Department Life Association of America.

Douglas Vass., Esq., Vice-President Alabams Department Life Association of America:

Dear Sir. We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date, covering check for ten thousand (to,coo) dollars, being the amount of policy on the life of the late Colonel L. T. Woodruff, and to express our appreciation of the courters and promptness shown by your Association in the preparation of the requisite proof-papers, and in the payment of the claim as soon as possible after our qualifications & Executors.

Very respectfully, (Signed) G. M. PARKISE.

[810,080.]
Received, of the Life Association America, the sum of ten thousand dollars, being in full for lounder policy No. 410, of the Life Association of America, on the life of Samuel A. Megcath. (Signed) JAMES G. MEGEATH, ADDISON COCHRAN, Adm'rs, S. A. Megcath, deceased. Received, of the Life Association of America, ten thousand dollars, in full for policy No. 504, isse E. B. Rule, for the beneilt of Margaret J. Rule, and heirs of the hody E. B. Rule, for the beneilt of Margaret J. Rule, and heirs of the hody E. B. Rule, deceased.

(Signed) J. B. Rule, Aller J. RULE, Welswof E. B. Rule, deceased.

(Signed) J. T. RULE, Guardians of the children of E. B. Rule, deceased.

seived, St. Louis, Mo., May 15, 1829, of the Life Association of a America, ten thousand (10,000, in full for all claims and demands for loss under policy No. 309, on the life of Thomas Scott, if my self, issued by said Life Association of America, October 16, 1898.

AUNES SCOTT. Received, St. Louis, Mo., June 25, 1889, of the Life Association of America, ten thousand (10,000 dollars, in full of claims and demands for loss under policy 1007, issued by said association, on the life of Jabez B. Rogers, in favor of myself, dated February 17, 1889.

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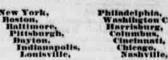
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